



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY DENTAL ACTIVITY  
FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA 85613-7040

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DSBJ-CDR (100)

19 October 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR Prime Time Clinic Staff, Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Dental Activity (DENTAC) Policy Memorandum #99-03  
-Policy on Dental Emergencies

1. This memo is to help explain the conditions and procedures for authorized beneficiaries who present to the Prime Time Clinic (PTC) after regular duty hours with a complaint of a dental emergency.
2. Beneficiaries with sub-acute conditions may be treated palliatively with analgesics or deferred until sick call hours the next duty day. However, if an authorized beneficiary requests a dental emergency evaluation by a dentist after duty hours, PTC personnel should contact the Dental Charge of Quarters.
3. A patient with one or more of the following conditions will usually require emergency evaluation/treatment by the Dental Officer of the Day (DOD):
  - a. Difficulty in swallowing or breathing secondary to facial swelling of oral origin.
  - b. Facial trauma resulting in loose, evulsed or fractured teeth; jaw fracture; or lacerations which require suturing.
  - c. Post operative bleeding from recent dental procedure, e.g. tooth extraction.
4. During duty days, emergency treatment is available for active duty soldiers at Runion Dental Clinic on a walk-in basis from 0700 - 1000.
5. Family members of active duty military are strongly encouraged to enroll in the TRICARE Active Duty Family Member Dental Plan. After the family member has established a relationship as a patient of record, the attending civilian dentist is obligated to render subsequent emergency care both during and after routine hours of operation.

//Original Signed By//

HARLAND G. LEWIS, JR.

Colonel, Dental Corps  
Commanding